

# Abode Photoshop- making a CD Cover

## DESIGN PROCESS

1. Create a folder called **CD COVER** within your IST folder.
2. Within the CD COVER folder, create a folder called **IMAGES**.
3. In selecting images for your CD cover you should try, wherever possible, to avoid breaching copyright . The following sites may be of help:  
<http://www.zoo-m.com/flickr-storm/>  
<http://pics.tech4learning.com/>  
<http://www.pdclipart.org/>  
<http://www.clipartof.com/>

Save all your downloaded images in the IMAGES folder.

4. Consider the colour scheme for your CD Cover  
background colour  
text colour



## REMEMBER:

This should be an original piece of work and NOT a copy of an existing CD Cover.

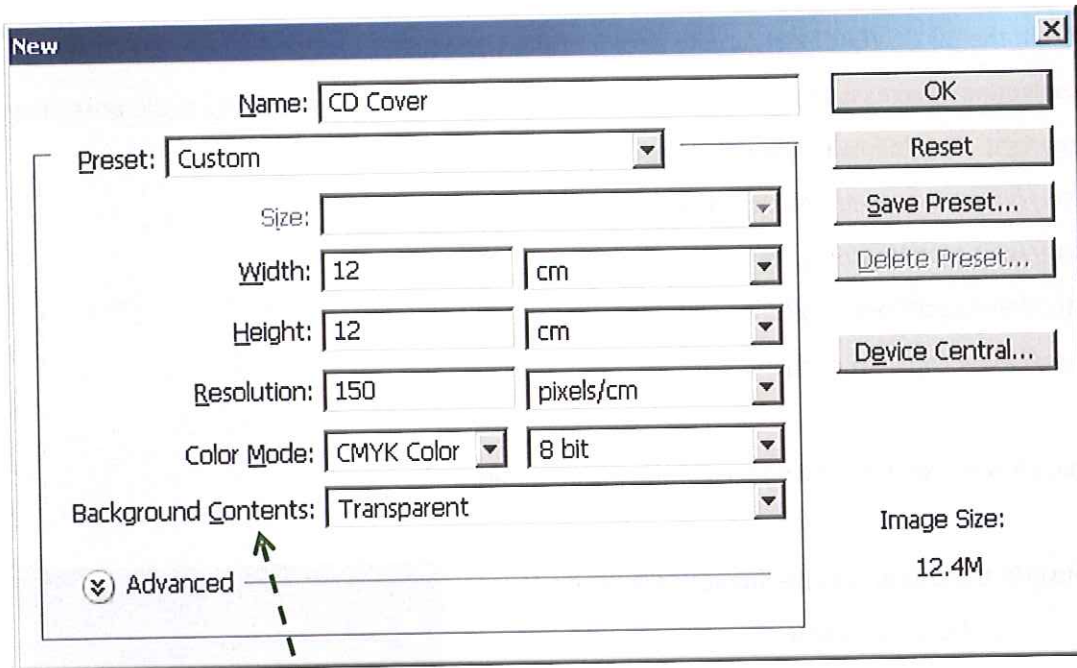
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Make sure you have **ESSENTIALS** selected for your toolboxes

Click **File > New**

and set your image Width and Height to 12 cm.



## Resolution

Resolution is a number of pixels on a printed area of an image. The higher the resolution, the more pixels there are on the page, the better is the quality of the image. However, high resolution increases the size of the file. The standard recommended **resolution for printed images** is 150-300, for Web images it is 72.

## Color Mode

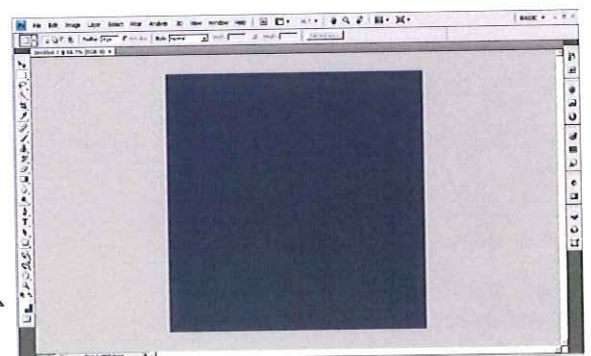
Choose a color mode that will best fit your project. For example, when making a graphic for a web site, choose RGB. When making an image for print, choose **CMYK**.

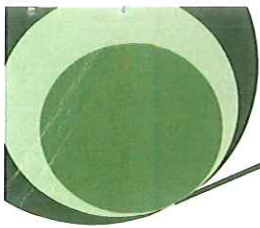
You may wish to change the **Background Contents** to Colour or Transparent.

Click **File > Save**

File name should be:

**CD Cover**





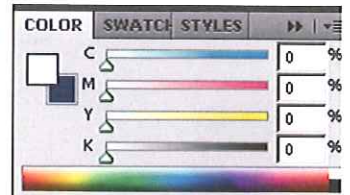
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## TOOLBAR BASICS

### 1. RIGHT HAND PANEL

#### COLOR, SWATCHES, STYLE

The **Color palette** displays the current foreground and background colours and CMYK values for these colours. You can use the sliders to change the foreground and background colours in different colour modes. You can also choose a colour from the spectrum of colours displayed in the colour ramp at the bottom of the palette.

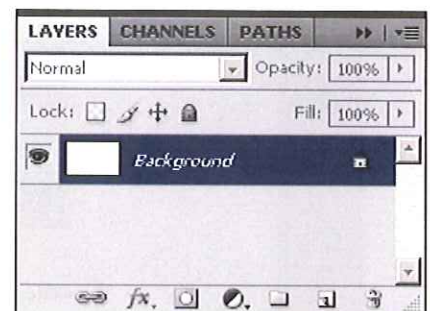


In the **Swatches palette** you can choose a foreground or background colour or add a customized colour to the library.

The **Styles palette** allows you to view, select, and apply preset layer styles. By default, a preset style replaces the current layer style. You can use the styles in the palette or add your own using the Create New Style icon.

#### LAYERS

Layers let you organize your work into distinct levels that can be edited and viewed as individual units. Creating multiple layers lets you easily control how your work is printed, displayed, and edited.



## COLOR BOXES AND MODES

#### Color Boxes



The foreground color appears in the upper color selection box and represents a color that is currently active. The background color appears in the lower box and represents an inactive color.

To change the foreground color, click the upper color selection box in the toolbox.

To change the background color, click the lower color selection box in the toolbox.

To reverse the foreground and background colors, click the Switch Colors icon (the arrow) in the toolbox.

To restore the default foreground and background colors, click the Default Colors icon (the little black and white boxes) in the toolbox.

**NOTE:** If you are using the Gradient Tool, the currently selected foreground and background colors will be the default colors of the gradient.



## 2. LEFT HAND PANEL









This area offers a vast selection of tools that you should investigate.

Some tools in the toolbar have additional "hidden" tools.

These tools have small black triangles in the right-hand corner and can be selected by clicking and holding down the mouse button for a moment.



### SELECTION TOOLS

- |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Marquee</b>                                                                      | Selects an object by drawing a rectangle or an ellipse around it.                                                                                                                                                                         |
|    | Click the tool button, choose a rectangular or an elliptical marquee. Drag the marquee over the area of the image you wish to select.                                                                                                     |
| <b>Move</b>                                                                         | Used to select and move objects on the page.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|   | Click the tool button, then click on any object on the page you wish to move.                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Lasso</b>                                                                        | Selects an object by drawing a freehand border around it.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|  | Click the tool button, drag to draw a freehand border around the area of the image you wish to select.                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Polygonal Lasso</b>                                                              | Selects an object by drawing a straight-edge border around it.                                                                                                                                                                            |
|  | Click the tool button, click on the starting point on the image, drag to draw a straight-edge border, click and drag again to select the area of the image you wish to select. Double-click to finish.                                    |
| <b>Magnetic Lasso</b>                                                               | Selects an object by drawing a border that snaps to the edges of the defined area of the object.                                                                                                                                          |
|  | Click on the starting point on the image, drag around the area of the image. The tool will make fastening points at the edges. To finish selecting, drag the border to the starting point and click precisely in the point.               |
| <b>Magic Wand</b>                                                                   | Selects all objects in a document with the same or similar fill color, stroke weight, stroke color, opacity, or blending mode. By specifying the color range, or tolerance, you can control what the Magic Wand tool selects.             |
|  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Crop Tool</b>                                                                    | Click the tool button, then click on the area of the image you wish to select. Selects and cuts parts of an image.                                                                                                                        |
|  | Click the tool button, then click and drag the tool over the part of the image that you want to keep. Resize the selected area dragging the squares at the sides and corners. Click the RETURN key when your crop box is sized correctly. |
| <b>Slice Tool</b>                                                                   | Used to cut images into slices, which can be exported to a web page.                                                                                                                                                                      |
|  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

## ALTERATION TOOLS

**Healing Brush** Corrects small blemishes in scanned photos.



Select the tool, hold down the ALT key and left-click on the base color you need to heal. Then left-click over the blemish.

**Brush Tool**



Draws lines of different thicknesses and colors.

Select the tool. Then click on the selected area, drag to draw lines. Use the Options bar to change the Brush, Mode, Opacity, and Flow.

**Clone Stamp**



Takes a sample of an image and applies over another image, or a part of the same image.

Select the tool. Hold down the ALT key and left-click on a certain point of the document where you want to start your copy point. Then, put your mouse over whatever part of the new document you want the picture to go to. Hold down the left mouse button and drag the mouse across the page to copy the picture.

**Art History Brush** Paints over an image using the source data from a specified history state or snapshot.



Select the tool, specify the Brush, Blending Mode, Opacity, Style, Area, and Tolerance.

**Erase Tool**



Removes part of an existing path or stroke. You can use the Erase tool on paths, but not on text.

Select the tool, click on the part of the image you wish to erase. Drag to erase pixels.

**Paint Bucket Tool** Fills and entire area with a specific color of your choice.



Select the tool. Choose a foreground color in the Color Box. Select an area you wish to apply the color to. Click the tool button, then click on the selected area.

**Gradient Tool**

Applies a gradient fill to a selected part of the image or to an entire layer.



Select an area you wish to apply gradient to, click the tool button, choose a fill in the Options bar, click on the starting point, hold the mouse down and drag to the end point.

**Blur Tool**

Blurs the sharp edges of an image.



Select an area where you wish to apply the tool. Click the tool button, choose the Brush, Mode, and Strength. Drag the brush along the edges.

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## DRAWING AND SELECTION TOOLS

### Direct Selection Tool



Selects paths and path segments.  
Select the tool, click anywhere on the path.

### Type Tool



Types text on a page. Every time you click the Type Tool on a new portion of the page a new layer will be created.

### Pen Tool



Draws smooth-edged paths.

Select the tool, click on the page, drag to draw a path. Click and drag the anchor points to modify the path.

### Rectangle Tool



Draws a rectangle shape. Other shapes that are hidden in this tool are: Rounded Rectangle Tool, Ellipse Tool, Polygon Tool, Line Tool, and Custom Shape Tool.

Select the tool, click and drag on the page to draw a shape. The shape will be automatically filled with the current foreground color.

## ASSISTING TOOLS

### Eyedropper Tool



Takes color samples from colors on the page and displays Tool them in the Color Boxes.

Select the tool, click on the color in the image you wish to sample. The Color Box will display this color.

### Hand Tool



Allows you to move around within the image.

Select the tool, click on the spot on the page, hold the mouse button down, drag to move in the area.

### Magnifying



Magnifies or reduces the display of any area in your image Glass Tool window.

Select the tool, choose Zoom In or Zoom Out in the Options bar, click on the area of the image you wish to magnify or reduce.

### Rotate View Tool



Rotates the canvas

Select this tool and click and drag outside of the canvas and the canvas will turn. Hold Shift to make sure that the canvas will snap to certain degree points.



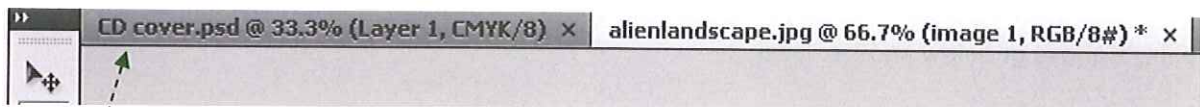
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
## 3. ADDING IMAGES

Following the steps below, you can add each new image as a separate layer. This process allows you to manipulate each image individually. When all of your images are assembled in the final image, you can resize or move the layers (the added images) so that they are in the desired position.

If the Layers palette does not appear, choose Window > Layers.

Choose **File > Open**, and select the first image to be added to your CD cover. You now have the CD cover and your image open at the same time.



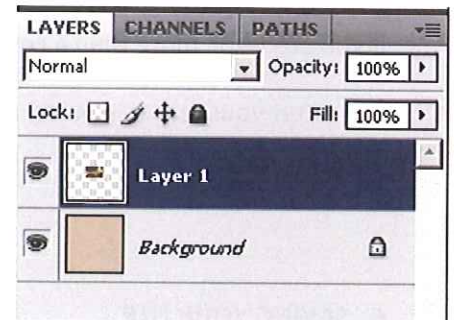
Using the **Marquee Tool** , select the area of the image you wish to use, then click **Edit > Copy**.

Click CD Cover (to make it the active window), then **Edit > Paste**.

Your image will be added on a new layer.

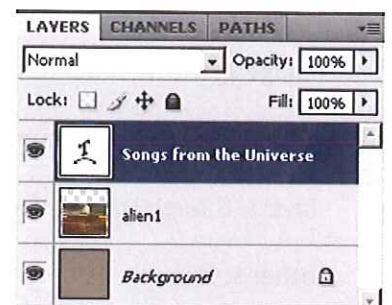
Double-click the words Layer 1 in the Layers palette, and rename Layer 1 so that you can keep track of your layers.

Close the image 1 window so that only the CD cover is open.



Your Layers palette now contains a Background layer and the new layer that you renamed.

Repeat these steps to add other images to your CD cover.



## 4. TO RESIZE, REPOSITION, AND ROTATE THE IMAGES OR LAYERS

In the Layers Palette, click once on the layer that you want to adjust.

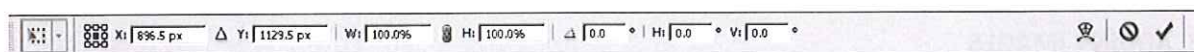
Choose **Edit > Free Transform** (Photoshop) or **Image > Transform > Free Transform** (Photoshop Elements).

**Note:** Before you transform your layer, make sure the correct layer is targeted in the Layers palette.

Notice the bounding box around the edges of the image and the anchor points on all four corners and sides (eight total).

- Resize the image by dragging the anchor points.
- Reposition the image by clicking inside the bounding box and dragging.
- Rotate the image by positioning your cursor just outside the bounding box, clicking, and dragging. You can rotate the image when your cursor changes to a curved double-headed arrow.

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In the option bar at the top of the screen, either click the check box to accept the transformation or click the circle with the slash through it to cancel the transformation.

Repeat these steps to resize, reposition, and rotate each of the other layers in the image.

## To rearrange the stacking order of the layers:

To change stacking order of the layers or the way the layers overlap, drag any layer in the Layers palette above or below another layer.

## 5. ADDING TEXT

Investigate *Warp Text*



If you are using more than a couple of words select the *Toggle the Character and Paragraph Panel* and enter your text as a paragraph.

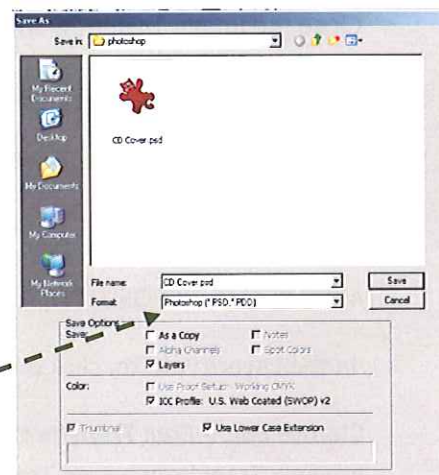
Click the check box to accept the text or click the circle with the slash through it to cancel.

## 6. SAVING YOUR FILE

While you are working on your CD cover always **SAVE** the image in the default Photoshop (.PSD) file format.

This retains the maximum file information, including all your layers, though the file size is large and not compatible with other software.

When you have finished your CD cover **SAVE AS** and select



JPEG (.JPG) in file format. This is a compressed file format and, while some quality is lost, the file size is reduced making it suitable for use on web pages. JPEG is best for photographic images or images with gradients.

Also save a copy of your **ORIGINAL** (.PSD) work in a GIF file format. This is done using the option **File > Save for Web & Devices**. GIF is a compressed file format suitable for web images that have areas of flat colour or text eg. logos and diagrams.